

Application No.: 10/634,269

Amendment and RCE dated: March 14, 2007

Reply to Office Action dated: November 14, 2006

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 10-13 and 19-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Detjens et al. ("Detjens"), U.S. Pat. No. 6,704,163. Claims 5-9 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Detjens (US 6,704,163) in view of Cubero Pitel ("Cubero Pitel"), U.S. Pat. No. 6,160,239. Claims 1, 10, 19 and 27 are amended. Claims 6 and 15 are cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Applicants respectfully submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe "[a] first component having a first cavity to be coupled to an arm portion having an arm cavity via insertion of a pin element, independent of the first component and arm portion, through the first cavity and the arm cavity and welded between said first component and said arm portion..." (e.g., claim 1).

The Office Action asserts Detjens shows (citing Figures 1-4) a system for a magnetic head arm assembly comprising: a first component (20) having a first cavity (22) to be coupled to an arm portion (14) having an arm cavity (32) via a pin element (16) welded between said first component and said arm portion. See Office Action dated 6/19/2006, paragraph 3. Applicants disagree.

First, Applicants disagree with the Office Action's assertion that element 14 is the same as the "arm portion" and element 20 is the same as the "first component" as described in embodiments of the present application. However, even if Applicants were to assume *arguendo* these assertions in the Office Action were true, the current rejection would still be inadequate.

Application No.: 10/634,269

Amendment and RCE dated: March 14, 2007

Reply to Office Action dated: November 14, 2006

Figure 1 of the cited Detjens reference shows the cited "tower[s]" 16 (the alleged pin element) as extensions *protruding from* cited element 14 (the alleged "arm portion"). However, these towers 16 are inserted through cited element 20 (the alleged "first component") only; they are not inserted through element 14, including the "arm registering hole" 32 of element 14. In order to support a proper rejection of claim 1, the cited reference must show at least a pin element inserted through an arm cavity of an arm portion (*e.g.*, as described in claim 1). Detjens does not.

Moreover, Detjens fails to describe a "pin" as described in embodiments of the present application. As argued above, the cited "towers" 16 are merely *extensions of* element 14, and are not independent of element 14. As such, these towers only require insertion through one opening, (allegedly) those of element 20. Claim 1 describes an embodiment wherein a pin, independent of a first component and an arm portion, is inserted through a first cavity of a first component *and* an arm cavity of the arm portion.

Therefore, Applicants maintain the cited reference fails to describe the relevant limitations for at least two reasons: 1) it fails to describe an embodiment where the pin is inserted through a first cavity of the first component and an arm cavity of the arm portion and 2) it fails to describe an embodiment where a first component and an arm portion are coupled by a pin independent of the first component and an arm portion.

Cubero Pitel fails to make up for the deficiencies of Detjens. Cubero Pitel is directed toward a laser soldering procedure applicable to the joining of pins over printed circuit boards. However, it does not describe at least these relevant limitations of claim 1 anywhere.

Since at least these features of claim 1 are missing from the cited references, claim 1 is

Application No.: 10/634,269
Amendment and RCE dated: March 14, 2007
Reply to Office Action dated: November 14, 2006

not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Independent claims 10, 19 and 27 contain similar allowable limitations. Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-26, and 28-32 are allowable as depending from the allowable base claims 1, 10, 19 and 27. Based on the arguments above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

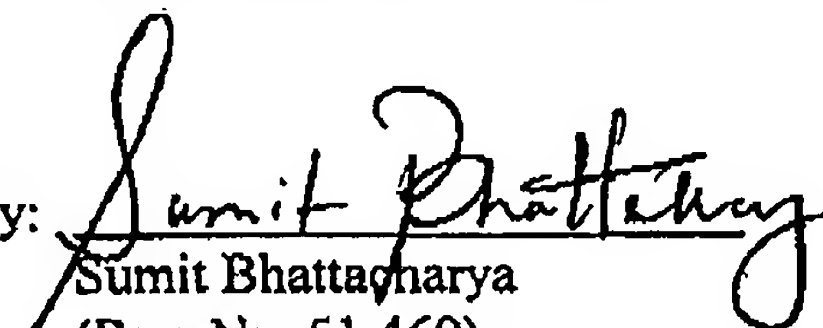
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: March 14, 2007

By:


Sumit Bhattacharya
(Reg. No. 51,469)

KENYON & KENYON LLP
333 West San Carlos St., Suite 600
San Jose, CA 95110

Telephone: (408) 975-7500
Facsimile: (408) 975-7501